

Australian
Library and
Information
Association



ALIA MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD

**Nominations are now being
called for the 2001 award**

The ALIA Manager of the Year award recognises and encourages exceptional management practices within the library and information sector. Nominees may be a personal member responsible for managing a library and information service or individual library, or responsible for a significant service or project within a larger organisational unit.

Nomination forms are available
from ALIA National Office
PO Box E441, Kingston ACT 2604
ph 02 6285 1877, fax 02 6282 2249
e-mail awards@alia.org.au or
URL <http://www.alia.org.au/awards/>

Nominations close 1 June 2001



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ALIA

The jungle club

Karen Batiste, acting youth services manager, Whitehorse Manningham Regional Library

Over the summer holidays Whitehorse Manningham Regional Library Corporation (WMRLC), in Melbourne's eastern suburbs, conducted its annual program for primary school-aged children — the Summer Reading Club. This club has in previous years been supported by statewide funding. Although this funding was not available this year, a number of libraries across Melbourne decided to collaborate in order to continue with this popular activity — with 'the jungle' as our theme. This theme lent itself to a variety of activities, including jungle drum workshops, and mask making.

For the first time, WMRLC held two collaborative projects with the Melbourne Zoo School. A chance encounter between one of our Youth Services librarians, Pauline Moncrieff, and Senior Education Officer, Judith Holcombe, led to discussions about how the Zoo and the library could work together with our jungle theme in mind. The Zoo came to Nunawading library with an array of pelts, skulls, feathers and shells and the library offered a trip to the Zoo School. On a muggy Monday in January, fifty-four library patrons met at the Zoo, and we had an exciting morning with several concurrent programs being offered in the Zoo School. This allowed a unique trip to the Melbourne Zoo, where children and their families could learn about rainforests and touch rare and special animals.

There were two levels of activities offered — *Whose nose? Zoo nose* for children aged 5 and under; and a tour of the Zoo School for children 6 and over. Library staff also conducted two storytime sessions with a zoo theme in the classrooms of the Zoo School, which again provided the opportunity for the children to have hands-on experiences with animals.

The success of this collaborative project, which has been measured by the number of attendees and their enjoyment, has encouraged us to continue such collaborations in the future. This project has been mutually beneficial to the Corporation and the Melbourne Zoo School in terms of publicity within our community, as well as providing an opportunity to demonstrate what dynamic places libraries can be.

I would like to thank Judith Holcombe from the Melbourne Zoo School for allowing us to participate in such a memorable experience — we are the first library service to arrange activities with the Zoo School! I also wish to acknowledge the invaluable support of The Friends of Nunawading Library for their sponsorship of the Jungle Club this summer.

For further information about this session at the Melbourne Zoo School, please contact Karen Batiste at karenb@wev.vic.gov.au or Judith Holcombe at jholcombe@zoo.org.au. ■

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LIBRARY TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

**Nominations are now being
called for the 2001 award.**

This award promotes the role of library technicians in library and information science, and the role and image of the library technician. Nominees must be a personal member of the Library Technician Section and hold a library technician qualification recognised by ALIA. Members should note that any nomination for the award must be made in strict confidence.

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Youth services librarian Pauline Moncrieff conducts a storytime session at the Melbourne Zoo School